

N° 28. Monday, March 13.

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They make lame Mischief, though they mean it well.
Their Int'rest is not finely drawn and hit;
But Seams are coarsely bungled up and seen.

Dryd. Don. Sebast.

 Hough it is generally esteem'd an indecent, as well as an invidious Task, for a Man to mention himself, or extol his own Family; yet in some Cases it becomes not only excusable, but even praise-worthy; especially when it is made necessary for our *Self-defence*; which I hope will be thought a sufficient Apology for what I have already said, and may hereafter have Occasion to say concerning *my self*, in Answer to the Calumnies and Misrepresentations of my Enemies.

The Family of D'ANVERS (as the Name is now contracted from the old Writing *De Anvers*) is of very ancient standing, and of no inconsiderable Note in this Kingdom; which I could easily prove from the most authentick Books of Heraldry; as I could, from other undoubted Authorities, that several of our Family have distinguis'd themselves not only in the polite Professions, but in the more immediate Service of their Country, both in Church and State, in the Camp and the Cabinet, with great Ability, and uncorrupt Virtue; especially, of late Years, in the **HOUSE OF COMMONS.**

But as the truest Patriots are commonly most exposed to Obloquy and Reproach, so our House has not been

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been able to escape the Malice of evil-minded Men, *who shot their Arrows against us, even bitter Words*; and, for want of any just Ground of Complaint or Reflection, they take a mean Pleasure in having Recourse to our *Name*; which, being of *foreign Extraction*, they endeavour to render odious to the People of this Kingdom; who are remarkable for a peculiar Fondness of their *own Country*, and (I hope I may say without Offence) too partial a Prejudice against *all others*.

As these are known to have been general national Reproaches, at all Times, and against all Persons, as well as *us*, who have not the Happiness to be of *English Birth or Extraction*; so I could not have the Weakness even to hope that I should avoid them under a *publick Character*, which naturally tends to excite *Envy* in some, and *Hatred* in others, who are engag'd in a different Cause; for which Reason, a Man in these Circumstances must expect that every little Story to his Disadvantage will be trumped up, and the least Handle for Reflection laid hold of by his *Adversaries*, in order to defeat his Designs, and promote their own.

I have sufficiently experienc'd this already in my own Case; and especially with Regard to that *popular Prejudice*, of which I have been speaking, against every thing that is *FOREIGN*. My Enenies seem to take abundance of Delight in ridiculing my *Name*, and have been most unmercifully witty and scurrilous upon that Occasion. They strenuously maintain, that we came originally from *ANTWERP*; because, as they observe, the *French Name* of that Town is *ANVERS*; which being at present in Possession of the *EMPEROR*, they argue from thence, that I must be of the *Imperial Faction*, and in the *German Interest*.

I shall not undertake to disprove or deny this Deduction of our *Original*; having the fullest Reason to believe that it is just (if Tradition, History, and Fa-

mily Records may be depended on) and that we came over hither, from *Germany*, with Archbishop CRANMER, at the Beginning of the *Reformation*, in order to avoid the *Persecution*, which was set on Foot in those Parts against *Luther* and his Followers; to whose Doctrines our Family became early *Profelytes*, and have ever since immoveably adhered. I am therefore so far from being ashame'd to derive my *Original* from thence, that I shall always esteem it as the greatest Honour to be ally'd, even at such a Distance, to a Nation, where the pure *Gospel* of *Christ* was first reviv'd from the Corruptions of *Rome*; and to which his most excellent Majesty King *GEORGE* (the present *Ornament* and *Defender* of the same *Protestant Faith*) as well as his Royal Family, for many Ages, have owed their illustrious Nativities.

But, whatever my *Extraction* may be, and whatever grateful Respect or hereditary Affection I may retain for a Nation, which was once the *dulce natale solum* of my Ancestors; yet it shall never prevail over my Duty to this Kingdom, which has vouchsafed to adopt me; nor draw me into the *Imperial Interest*, when it is inconsistent with the Welfare of *Great-Britain*. On the contrary, no Body can have a stronger Abhorrence of the Measures, which have been lately taken against us by the *common Enemy*; nor behold, with more Indignation, the famous *German Faith*, which has been so long proverbially us'd for the most religious Adherence to *Treaties* and *Engagements*, declining into a Term of Reproach, and fill'd with Accusations of *Ingratitude* and *Perfidiousness*.

Upon reading the *Memorial*, lately presented to his Majesty by Monsieur *de PALM* (for which that Minister has been justly dismiss'd) I was extremely surpriz'd to find Language us'd in it, which would have appear'd indecent between *Gentlemen*; and is much more so between *crown'd Heads*. This seems the

more

more extraordinary from his *Imperial* Majesty, because the utmost Respect has been paid to his great Character ; and, whatever the Zeal of some private Gentlemen might urge them to say, yet no *hard Names, unprincely Epithets, or inflaming Language* has been publickly made use of, in the Height of all our just Indignation against him. But my Surprize ceased, when I was inform'd, that *this Memorial* was pen'd by a *German Bishop*, in conjunction with a *Renegado French Jesuit*, who has as much Influence over *Him*, as He has over some *Ministers* at that Court. These two Persons are, as I am told, employ'd at present in drawing up the *Answer*, which is promis'd in the *Memorial*, to the *ENQUIRY* lately publish'd here, and so often mention'd in this Paper.

But as the only Hopes of our Enemies seemed to consist in the general Disinclination of the People to *new Wars, Debts and Taxes* ; and the chief Design of this insolent *Memorial* was to exasperate and inflame the Kingdom against the *present Ministry*, by representing them as the *sole Authors* of the Disturbances of *Europe* ; so we have the Satisfaction to see them grievously mistaken and disappointed in their Expectations ; for it appears from the *ADDRESSES*, which have been lately sent up from all Parts, that there never was a more vigorous Spirit of *British Zeal and Loyalty* amongst our Countrymen, than what has discover'd itself upon this Occasion. Every *Gazette* abounds with the warmest Professions of Resentment and Indignation against the Enemies of their Country, and of their cheerful Submission to any Burthens, which it may be judged necessary to lay upon them ; in order to destroy the *Ostend Company* ; to support *Gibraltar* ; to defeat the *Designs* of a *Popish Pretender* ; and restore the *Tranquility* of *Europe*. The good People of *Totnes*, in particular, are so far from being, in any wise, uneasy, under the *four Shillings per Pound Land-Tax*, that they have made

a Free-will Offering of the other Sixteen, and of every Thing else, that is dear and valuable to them. Nay, that they might not leave the least Room for our Enemies to triumph, either at Home or Abroad, they did not confine themselves to the ordinary Method of *Addressing*, by declaring their Affection to his *Majesty*, and their Resolution to support *Him* in this vigorous Manner, but seem to be in the most dutiful Raptures with the Zeal of his glorious *Parliament*, and the Conduct of his *most incomparable Ministry*; in which uncommon Strain of Loyalty, they have been very laudably seconded by the Gentlemen of *Lynn-Regis*, and by some other Burroughs of *NORFOLK* and *SUSSEX*.

There is indeed a noble Spirit, which animates all these *Addressees*, and makes them well worth the Perusal of every curious and honest *Briton*. I will instance only one more, *viz.* That from the ancient and loyal Corporation of *Sbrewsbury*; which, speaking of our *ALLIANCE*, says very justly, as well as very elegantly, *that it will, in Time to come, render the HANOVER Ensigns more illustrious than the confederated Eagles of the Roman and Russian Empires, and bind up the Golden Fleece of Spain in the renowned Garter of Great-Britain.*

Such extraordinary Manifestations of Zeal, Satisfaction, and Concurrence with Those at the Helm will, I doubt not, extinguish all the vain Hopes of our Enemies, and give the greatest Mortification to this *prelatical Incendiary*, when He sees all his vile Sophistry rejected by the united Voice of the People, as it has been already condemn'd by their Representatives assembled in *Parliament*.

This *Prelate*, it seems, had obstructed his own *Retirement* in the Church by several Writings and Discourses, containing Positions, which had render'd not only his *Orthodoxy*, but even his *Christianity* suspected; so that despairing to rise as a worthy *Church-*

Churchman, he determin'd to try his Fortune as a Politician; and has since wholly neglected spiritual for the Sake of temporal Affairs.

I cannot forbear observing, upon this Occasion, that nothing does Religion more Prejudice than to see Those, whose Profession and Duty it is to inculcate a Contempt of this World for the sake of a better, busying themselves in worldly Cares, and promoting Differences and Animosities among Mankind; for it is plain that *such Churchmen* have no Notion of any other future State, than that of TRANSLATION.

When *Ecclesiasticks* thrust themselves into the publick Affairs of this World, their Actions are generally rash and cruel, and their Language unmannerly and scurrilous; for as, like *Ladies*, they are by their Petticoats protected from the Consequences of *Railing*; so, like them too, they commonly make no small use of that *Privilege*.

But, farther; a *Churchman*, who meddleth with State-matters *without knowing them*, must be a *weak* Man; and He, who *does know them*, must be a *dis honest* Man, because he must have bestowed that Application upon them, which was only due to his own Profession. I look upon such a Man to be guilty of *Sacrilege* in the highest Degree; for instead of *serving* at the Altar, by which he *lives*, he *robs* the Altar, at which he *does not serve*.

The late *Bishop Burnet*, who concern'd himself in *those Affairs* as much as any Man, and understood them better than most modern *Churchmen*, was so conscious of This, and so sensible that *such Matters* did not belong to him, nor become his *Function*, that in his Works we frequently meet with the severest Censures of such Practices; which the Force of Truth extorted from Him, at the same Time that they included the strongest *Condemnation of Himself* and his *own Actions*.